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Woodbridge Urban District Council.

MINISTRY OF HEALTH
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Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1957

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Eden Lodge,

Woodbridge,

Suffolk.

October, 1958.

The Chairman and Councillors,

Woodbridge Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present herewith my annual report for the year 1957, dealing with the general health of the population of Woodbridge and with such matters of hygiene and sanitation as may influence the health of the community.

I would like to thank the Council and Officials for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

C. H. Imrie,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health

C. H. Imrie, T.D.,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector

G. Ogden, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

A. STATISTICS

1. Summary of General Statistics

Area of District in Acres	1097.
Number of inhabited houses (approx.)	2020.
Rateable Value of District	£67,323. 0. 0.
Product of Penny Rate	£265. 0. 0.

Analysis of Vital Statistics

		Male	Female	Total	Rate per 1000 population	Adjusted Rate for comparison	Rate per 1000 population England & Wales
a.	Live Births						
	Legitimate	51	33	91	16.19	16.5	16.1
	Illegitimate	4	3				
b.	Still Births						
	Legitimate	1	2	3	⁎ 31.8	-	22.4
	Illegitimate	-	-				
c.	Deaths all Ages	30	36	66	11.2	9.18	11.5
d.	Deaths under 1 year of age	1	2	3	⁎ 32.9	-	23.8

⁎ This rate is expressed per 1000 live births.

Summary of Vital Statistics

1946 to 1957

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Estimated Population	4998	5101	6450	5380	5340	5413	5448	5432	5510	5540	5590	5620
Birth Rate	19.4	17.8	13.3	18.7 (99)	19.2 (80)	15.1 (82)	15.6 (85)	16.75 (91)	18.7 (103)	15.7 (87)	12.7 (71)	16.19 (91)
Still Birth Rate	0.4	0.19	0.40	nil	0.93 (5)	nil	0.36 (2)	nil	28.3 (3)	11.3 (1)	nil	31.8 (3)
Death Rate	10.7	13.3	13.2	14.3 (87)	11.3 (80)	12.4 (67)	11.0 (60)	11.9 (65)	13.25 (73)	12.4 (69)	13.7 (77)	11.2 (66)
Infantile Death Rate	51.5	21.9	23.2	50.4 (5)	37.5 (5)	48.7 (4)	11.7 (1)	21.9 (2)	67.96 (7)	11.4 (1)	nil	32.9 (3)

Note: Infantile Death Rate is the rate per 1,000 live births - the other rates are per 1,000 population.

The Still Birth Rate is the rate per 1,000 live and still births.

Figures in brackets are the actual numbers.

Causes of Death

Code No:		Male	Female	Total 1957	Total 1956
1.	Tuberculosis respiratory	-	1	1	-
2.	Tuberculosis other	-	-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic Disease	1	-	1	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-	-	-
9.	Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm stomach	-	1	1	2
11.	Malignant neoplasm lung bronchus	3	-	3	2
12.	Malignant neoplasm breast	-	1	1	-
13.	Malignant neoplasm uterus	-	3	3	-
14.	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	3	2	5	10
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-	1
16.	Diabetes	1	-	1	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	5	9	5
18.	Coronary disease angina	5	7	12	10
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	-	3	3	2
20.	Other heart disease	3	3	6	18
21.	Other circulatory diseases	1	3	4	3
22.	Influenza	-	-	-	2
23.	Pneumonia	2	1	3	2
24.	Bronchitis	2	1	3	5
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1	1
27.	Gastritis and diarrhoea	1	-	1	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-	-	-
30.	Pregnancy childbirth	-	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	-	-	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	4	5	4
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	2	-	2	3
34.	All other accidents	-	1	1	5
35.	Suicide	-	-	-	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-
		30	36	66	77

STATISTICS FOR 1957

Population: Once again the population of Woodbridge showed a small increase over the previous year and was estimated by the Registrar General to be 5,620 in mid 1957.

Births: After a very low Birth Rate in 1956 the figure for 1957 returned to a more accustomed level. The Live Birth Rate at over 16 per 1,000 population is very satisfactory and compares well with other areas.

Still Births: The total of 3 Still Births was in no way exceptional for Woodbridge. This represents a Still Birth Rate of rather over 30 per 1,000 live and still births.

Deaths: As compared with the previous year the Death Rate was considerabl lower and there was no significant change in pattern of the causes of death. There were only two infectious disease deaths, including one case of Tuberculosis. Deaths from malignant causes were 13 as compared with 14 in the previous year, while diseases of the Heart and circulatory system were also slightly lower (34 as compared with 38 in 1956). Another pleasing factor was the slight decline in deaths from accidents.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The total of 74 cases of Notifiable Disease was, as will be seen from the tables, largely made up of the childish Upper Respiratory Infections Whooping Cough and Measles. These occurred as small outbreaks in the fir half of the year and had practically vanished by the Autumn.

There were no cases of Poliomyelitis or any of the Intestinal infecti during the year. The number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register ros from 19 to 22 during 1957, 7 new cases being notified and 7 being removed from the Register - the increase of 3 being accounted for by the inward transfer of cases already notified elsewhere.

Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Poliomyelitis under the County Council's scheme was again a feature of the active contro of infection.

Infectious Disease

Notifications Received

Age

Disease	under 1	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64	65 & over	age unknown	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Whooping Cough	2	1	9	16	4	-	-	1	2	-	35
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	1	5	10	8	2	2	1	-	-	1	30
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	6
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
											74

Monthly Notifications

Disease	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apl	May	Jne	Jly	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	2
Whooping Cough	2	7	15	6	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	35
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	12	5	7	1	-	2	1	2	-	-	-	-	30
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	2	6
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
													74

Tuberculosis

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Tot
	M	F	M	F	
Number on Register 1st January, 1957	11	5	-	3	19
Number of cases notified during the year	6	1	-	-	7
Number restored to Register	-	-	-	-	-
Number added otherwise than by Notification	3	-	-	-	3
Number of cases removed from Register	3	2	-	2	7
Number remaining on Register at 31st December, 1957	17	4	-	1	22

Details of Cases added to Register

Age	Sex	Occupation	Location of Disease
24	M	Unknown	Pulmonary
25	M	Clerk	Pulmonary
77	M	Retd. Company Director	Pulmonary
45	F	Housewife	Pulmonary
17	M	Unknown	Pulmonary
57	M	Carpenter	Pulmonary
48	M	Clergyman	Pulmonary
34	M	Machine Operator	Pulmonary
17	M	Market Gardener	Pulmonary
76	M	Retired Gardener	Pulmonary

Cases Removed from Register

3 - Recovered
2 - Moved to another District
1 - Died - Tuberculosis
1 - Died - Other causes

HOUSING

General

The estimated number of inhabited houses in the District increased slightly during the year, and the average of 2.2 persons per house does not suggest any general overcrowding problem, although in some of the areas which are designated for future Statutory action, there are some cases.

There was, by the end of the year, still a demand for housing accommodation in the district, particularly of the less expensive type. The shortage of houses, however, has ceased to be as urgent as it was some years ago.

Slum Clearance

During 1957 some progress was made with the Slum Clearance Scheme in the Castle Street area. This consisted in the main of the preliminary paper work which such an undertaking always entails. By the end of the year, however, this had been largely completed and the alternative Council House accommodation was becoming available for rehousing. In December the movement of tenants began and it was anticipated that this will be carried on, a few at a time as houses become available, until the area is cleared.

SANITATION AND REFUSE DISPOSAL

There was no material alteration in the methods of waste and refuse disposal in the town during the year and previous reports have dealt with these. The increase in population and the creation of new houses must, however, inevitably increase the demands.

By the end of 1957 there had still been no progress made towards the projected Sewage Scheme for Woodbridge. One of the main obstacles was the unrealistically high cost which the combined scheme would throw upon this small authority. Modified schemes which might bear less heavily upon the finances of the district were considered and further action was postponed pending clarification of the position regarding the Agreement with the Rural District Council.

Practically the only tangible result which can be seen so far, for the years of consideration which this project has received, is an increasing file of documents, reports and estimates, and the fees expended on their preparation. For a town of the size, type and position of Woodbridge, a Sewage Scheme, which is efficient and realistic from the financial point of view, is imperative.

WATER SUPPLY

COPY

LINCOLNE SUTTON & WOOD
Analytical & Consulting Chemists.

CLARENCE HOUSE,
6, CLARENCE ROAD,
NORWICH.

ERIC C. WOOD.

Cert. No: 306.I

Lab. No: 5351/W.

2nd July, 1957.

CERTIFICATES OF ANALYSIS OF WATER

Samples received: 12th June, 1957. From: Woodbridge U.D.C.

Sample Marked: Public Supply taken from Crag Well No. 1 at Waterworks.
Appearance when received: clear; trace rusty deposit.
Nature of deposit: organic debris; chalk; and iron compounds.
Colour: nil. Odour: nil.
Reaction: neutral pH.6.9. Taste: satisfactory.

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Ammoniacal nitrogen: 0.01
Albuminoid nitrogen: 0.02
Nitrate nitrogen: 13.5
Nitrite nitrogen: nil
Chlorine as chlorides: 52
Oxygen absorbed (4 hr., 27°C.): 0.32

Hardness as $CaCO_3$:
Total: 475
Carbonate (temporary): 335
Non-carbonate (permanent): 140
Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$: 335
Free carbon dioxide: 48.5
Total solids (at 180°C.): 780
Iron (total): 0.55
Metals in solution: other than iron - nil.

Water Supply cont.....

Sample Marked: Public Supply taken from Crag Well No. 2 at Waterworks.
Appearance when received: clear.
Nature of deposit: nil.
Colour: nil.
Odour: nil.
Reaction: neutral pH. 7.1
Taste: satisfactory.

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Ammoniacal nitrogen: negligible trace.
Albuminoid nitrogen: 0.03
Nitrate nitrogen: 5.0
Nitrite nitrogen: nil
Chlorine as chlorides: 48
Oxygen absorbed (4 hr., 27°C.): 0.24

Hardness as $CaCO_3$:
Total: 435
Carbonate (temporary): 310
Non-carbonate (permanent): 125
Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$: 310
Free carbon dioxide: 48
Total solids (at 180°C.): 630
Iron (total): nil.
Metals in solution: other than iron - nil.

Sample marked: Public Supply taken from Crag Well No. 3 at Waterworks.
Appearance when received: clear.
Nature of deposit: nil.
Colour: nil.
Odour: nil.
Reaction: neutral pH. 6.9.
Taste: satisfactory.

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Ammoniacal nitrogen: 0.03
Albuminoid nitrogen: 0.02
Nitrate nitrogen: 1
Nitrite nitrogen: nil
Chlorine as chlorides: 36
Oxygen absorbed (4 hr., 27°C.): 0.2

Hardness as $CaCO_3$:
Total: 465
Carbonate (temporary): 340
Non-carbonate (permanent): 125
Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$: 340
Free carbon dioxide: 54.5
Total solids (at 180°C.): 625
Iron (total): nil.
Metals in solution: other than iron - nil.

Water Supply cont

Sample Marked: Public Supply taken from Bore No. 1 at Waterworks.
Appearance when received: clear; trace rusty deposit.
Nature of deposit: Iron compounds.
Colour: Slightly yellow. Odour: nil.
Reaction: neutral pH. 7.0 Taste: satisfactory.

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Ammoniacal nitrogen: 0.18
Albuminoid nitrogen: 0.01
Nitrate nitrogen: 0.50
Nitrite nitrogen: 0.032
Chlorine as chlorides: 228
Oxygen absorbed (4 hr., 27°C.): 0.24

Hardness as $CaCO_3$:
Total: 545
Carbonate (temporary): 290
Non-carbonate (permanent): 255
Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$: 290
Free carbon dioxide: 51
Total solids (at 180°C.): 1105
Iron (total): 0.5
Metals in solution: other than iron - nil.

Sample Marked: Public supply taken from Bore No. 2 at Waterworks.
Appearance when received: clear; trace rusty deposit.
Nature of deposit: silicious matter; chalk; and iron compounds.
Colour: slightly yellow. Odour: nil.
Reaction: neutral pH. 7.0 Taste: satisfactory.

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANAYLSIS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Ammoniacal nitrogen: 0.15
Albuminoid nitrogen: 0.01
Nitrate nitrogen: nil
Nitrite nitrogen: nil
Chlorine as chlorides: 208
Oxygen absorbed (4 hr., 27°C.). 0.2

Hardness as $CaCO_3$:
Total: 505
Carbonate (temporary): 320
Non-carbonate (permanent): 185
Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$: 320
Free carbon dioxide: 43.5
Total solids (at 180°C.): 985
Iron (total): 0.35
Metals in solution: other than iron - nil.

In his opinion the Public Analyst states that the samples of water were wholesome and suitable for a public supply.

FOOD

Food Premises in District

Bakers	- 7	Grocers	- 9
Butchers	- 7	Green Grocers	- 9
Confectioners	- 10	General Stores	- 12
Dairies	- 2	Pork Butchers	- 2
Fish Mongers	- 4	Hotels & Cafes	- 12
Fish & Chip Shops	- 4		

Food Inspections

The following items were inspected and condemned during the year:-

Tinned food

6 tins Tomatoes
20 tins Peas
13 tins Beans
3 tins Cherries
5 tins Pineapple
3 tins Apricots
14 tins Peaches
8 tins Pears
2 tins Mandarins
2 tins Soup
38 pts. tinned Milk

Meat

15 lbs. Corned Beef
4½ lbs. Luncheon Meat
7 lbs. Braised Steak
6 lbs. Ox Tongues
6 lbs. Veal
3 lbs. Minced Beef Loaf
6 lbs. Beef
1 lb. Beef and Tongue
32 lbs. Bacon

Fish

2 tins Anchovies
15 tins Pilchards
2 stone Bream fillet
2 boxes herring roes

Action under Various Acts & Regulations

1957

1. Factories Act, 1937

	On Register	Inspections	Defects	Remedied
Factories not employing power	4	2	-	-
Factories employing power	37	12	-	-
	41	14	-	-

Outworkers - Nil on Register

11. National Assistance Act, 1948

No statutory action under Section 47 of this Act was considered necessary during the year.